



FRISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Frisco Police Reduce Vehicle Burglaries Despite the Increase in Vehicles Left Unlocked

FRISCO, TX – A crime analysis performed by the Frisco Police Department found that 2009 had the lowest number of vehicle burglaries in the city in recent history. Last year, the police department investigated 634 burglaries of vehicles, which represents a 33% decrease in burglaries since 2006.

“Our patrol officers have been working hard to prevent burglaries from occurring in their districts, and the detectives investigating the crimes have been working hard to find the criminals and put them in jail,” noted Chief Todd Renshaw. The police department’s efforts are paying off as fewer and fewer burglaries are being committed each year, declining steadily over the past four years.

However, the police department continues to fight an uphill battle due to the fact that—even though overall burglaries are down—the total number of vehicles that are left unlocked has been steadily increasing. “Unlocked vehicles present nothing more than an opportunity for criminals,” states Sergeant Jon Skaehill, a night shift patrol sergeant who has seen the trend forming over the years. “Many times the burglars will walk up and down alleyways pulling on door handles waiting to find an unlocked car,” says Skaehill, “and when they find one it’s easy pickings.”

In 2006 when the department experienced an all-time high of 953 vehicle burglaries, only 29% of the burglaries were a result of unlocked vehicles. Since that time, incidents involving unlocked vehicles have steadily increased and as of last year, almost 40% of all vehicle burglaries were from unlocked vehicles.

Officers with the department’s Community Services Division stress the LOCK, TAKE, and HIDE approach to help reduce burglaries: lock your car, take your keys, and hide your belongings.

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